

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 25 public bills, H.R. 5788–5812; and 3 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 328; and H. Res. 1108–1109 were introduced.

Pages H2354–55

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2355–56

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 1107, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5715) to ensure continued availability of access to the Federal student loan program for students and families (H. Rept. 110–590). Page H2354

Recess: The House recessed at 11:07 a.m. and reconvened at noon.

Page H2272

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Federal Law Enforcement Officers Congressional Badge of Bravery Act of 2007: H.R. 4056, amended, to establish an awards mechanism to honor Federal law enforcement officers injured in the line of duty;

Pages H2276–78

Supporting the mission and goals of National Crime Victims' Rights week: H. Res. 1053, to support the mission and goals of National Crime Victims' Rights week in order to increase public awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of victims and survivors of crime in the United States;

Pages H2278–80

Recognizing and honoring the 40th anniversary of congressional passage of title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (the Fair Housing Act) and the 20th anniversary of the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988: H. Res. 1095, to recognize and honor the 40th anniversary of congressional passage of title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (the Fair Housing Act) and the 20th anniversary of the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988;

Pages H2280–84

Religious Worker Visa Extension Act of 2008: H.R. 5570, amended, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the sunset in the special immigrant nonminister religious worker visa program;

Pages H2284–89

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to the special immigrant nonminister religious worker program, and for other purposes."

Page H2289

Providing that the usual day for paying salaries in or under the House of Representatives may be

established by regulations of the Committee on House Administration: H.R. 5493, to provide that the usual day for paying salaries in or under the House of Representatives may be established by regulations of the Committee on House Administration; and

Pages H2297–98

Permitting active duty members of the Armed Forces who are assigned to a Congressional liaison office of the Department of Defense at the House of Representatives to obtain membership in the exercise facility established for employees of the House of Representatives: H. Res. 1068, amended, to permit active duty members of the Armed Forces who are assigned to a Congressional liaison office of the Department of Defense at the House of Representatives to obtain membership in the exercise facility established for employees of the House of Representatives.

Page H2298

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To permit active duty members of the Armed Forces who are assigned to a Congressional liaison office of the Armed Forces at the House of Representatives to obtain membership in the exercise facility established for employees of the House of Representatives."

Page H2298

Suspension—Failed: The House failed to agree to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

Emergency Assistance for Secure Elections Act of 2008: H.R. 5036, amended, to direct the Administrator of General Services to reimburse certain jurisdictions for the costs of obtaining paper ballot voting systems for the general elections for Federal office to be held in November 2008 and to reimburse jurisdictions for the costs incurred in conducting audits or hand counting of the results of the general elections for Federal office to be held in November 2008, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 239 yeas to 179 nays, Roll No. 188.

Pages H2289–97, H2306–07

Authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D.: The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to S. Con. Res. 71, to authorize the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D.

Pages H2298–99

Taxpayer Assistance and Simplification Act of 2008: The House passed H.R. 5719, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to conform return preparer penalty standards, delay implementation of

withholding taxes on government contractors, enhance taxpayer protections, and assist low-income taxpayers, by a recorded vote 238 ayes to 179 noes, Roll No. 190. **Pages H2299–H2306, H2307–22**

Rejected the Herger motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means with instructions to report the same back promptly with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 210 yeas to 210 nays, Roll No. 189. **Pages H2319–21**

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. **Page H2299**

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House. **Page H2323**

H. Res. 1102, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 222 ayes to 195 noes, Roll No. 187. **Page H2306**

Agreed to the Sutton amendment to the rule by voice vote, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 220 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 186. **Pages H2305–06**

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated on Monday, April 14th:

Texas Military Veterans Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 5517, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7231 FM 1960 in Humble, Texas, as the “Texas Military Veterans Post Office”, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 413 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 191. **Pages H2322–23**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2305, H2306, H2306,07, H2320–21, H2321–22, H2322. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at 11:25 p.m.

Committee Meetings

CIA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense/Select Intelligence Oversight Panel met in executive session to hold a hearing on the CIA. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the CIA: Stephen R. Kappes, Deputy Director; and Brian P. Shortley, Chief Financial Officer.

IRS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on the IRS. Testimony was heard from Douglas

Shulman, Commissioner, IRS, Department of the Treasury.

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a hearing on the Capitol Visitor Center. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Architect of the Capitol: Stephen Ayers, Acting Architect of the Capitol; Bernie Ungar, Project Executive; and Terrie Rouse, CEO, Visitor Service, both with Capitol Visitor Center; Terry Dorn, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, GAO; and Phillip Morse, Chief, U.S. Capitol Police.

SOUTHCOM

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held a hearing on SOUTHCOM. Testimony was heard from Adm James E. Stavridis, USN, Commander, U.S. Southern Command.

BUILDING PARTNERSHIP CAPACITY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE INTERAGENCY

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on Building Partnership Capacity and Development of the Interagency. Testimony was heard from Robert M. Gates, Secretary of Defense; and Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State.

OVERSIGHT—DEFENSE TRAVEL SYSTEM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on oversight of the Defense Travel System. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Michael L. Dominguez, Principal Deputy Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness; and David Fisher, Director, Business Transformation Agency; McCoy Williams, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, GAO; and a public witness.

OVERSIGHT—FCC

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Federal Communications Commission—the 7 MHz Auction.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the FCC: Kevin J. Martin, Chairman; Michael J. Copps, Jonathan S. Adelstein, Deborah Taylor Tate and Robert M. McDowell, all Commissioners; and public witnesses.

FINANCIAL LITERACY AND EDUCATION

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing entitled “Financial Literacy and Education: The Effectiveness of Governmental and Private Sector Initiatives.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: Anna Escobedo Cabral, Treasurer of the United States;